



Mansfield Downtown Partnership Invites Residents to "Celebrate Mansfield" at the 10th Annual *Festival on the Green*!

<u>September 10, 2013</u> – The <u>Mansfield Downtown Partnership</u> invites area residents to "Celebrate Mansfield" at the <u>10th Annual Festival on the Green</u> with music, food, and fun! The excitement begins with the <u>Celebrate Mansfield Parade</u> at noon and continues until 4:00 pm. The *Festival on the Green* will be Sunday, September 22 in front of the E. O. Smith High School (if it rains, the event will be held inside the school).

Be sure to arrive early to grab a "seat on the street" because Storrs Road (Route 195) will close at 11:45 am to accommodate the Parade. The "Pride of Connecticut" UConn Marching Band will anchor an eclectic line-up of community groups, sports teams, local businesses, animals, and larger-than-life puppets from the Ballard Institute and Museum of Puppetry.

Children are invited to ride their bicycle or tricycle with the traditional "Bikes, Tykes, and Trikes." To participate, children and their adult(s) should meet at the corner of Storrs Road and South Eagleville Road (Route 275) at 11:00 am. Volunteers will be there to assemble the riders. Cyclists of all ages are required to wear helmets.

Follow the Celebrate Mansfield Parade from the Post Office, up Storrs Road, onto Bolton Road, and into the *Festival on the Green*. The E. O. Smith High School band will open the festivities with some rousing tunes. Then, Kidsville Kuckoo Revue takes to the stage to entertain the young and young-atheart with familiar songs and dances. There will be plenty of room to dance, and attendees are welcome to bring folding chairs and picnic blankets.

Throughout the afternoon, Mansfield businesses and organizations will host a wide variety of activity booths featuring hands-on fun for all ages. Among the planned activities are face-painting, candy art, and pottery demos. UConn's Dining Services returns to host their popular cooking demonstrations.

This year's *Festival on the Green* brings a special headliner to the stage: <u>Black Prairie</u>. Black Prairie plays a brand of Americana that defies easy categorization, cross-pollinating a number of different styles while exposing the venerable, forgotten roots of folk and bluegrass.

This talented ensemble is pulled together from different corners of Portland, Oregon's rich music scene and includes three-fifths of the Decemberists. Black Prairie will take to the *Festival on the Green* stage

following a full summer schedule that included stops at Bonarroo, Vancouver Folk Music Festival, and Newport Folk Fest. Their performance will begin at 2:30 pm.

The Festival on the Green would not be possible without the generous support of the many sponsors and volunteers who contribute their time and resources to this special community event. Please be sure to visit our sponsors' booths and thank them for their support!

The 2013 Event Sponsors are Storrs Center; The Oaks on The Square; and Gulemo, Inc., Printers. The Landmark Sponsors are E. O. Smith High School; the Town of Mansfield; UConn; Kahan, Kerensky & Capossela, LLP; Moe's Southwest Grill; Mooyah Burgers & Fries; The Hartford Courant; UConn Co-op; WILI AM and i98.3 FM; Willimantic Waste Paper Co., Inc.; and Windham Hospital.

The Grassroots Sponsors are AT&T; Dr. Karen Calef, DMD; Cipparone & Zaccaro, LLP; First Niagara; Liberty Bank; Maid Brigade; Mansfield OB/GYN; Merchants of Storrs Commons; Nathan Hale Inn & Conference Center; People's United Bank; Savings Institute Bank & Trust; SBM Charitable Foundation; Sun Harvest Renewable Resources; TD Bank; UConn Foundation; UConn Health Center; Weichert Realtors – Four Corners Real Estate, LLC; and Wilcox & Reynolds Insurance, LLC.

For more information about the 10th Annual Festival on the Green, please visit www.downtownstorrsfestival.org, or call the Mansfield Downtown Partnership office (860.429.2740).

The Festival on the Green is part of <u>Celebrate Mansfield Weekend</u>.



Photos by Kim Bova and Janine Callahan